

HO-182

THE FRANCIS SHIPLEY HOUSE (MRS. MILLER MILLS HOUSE)

Private

Glenelg

circa 1833

The Miller Mills House faces north on the south side of Triadelphia Road, 1/10 of a mile west of its intersection with Folly Quarter Road. It is a three bay wide, two bay deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame structure built on a stone foundation with central, square, tent roofed cupola and wide brick chimney on the west side of the cupola. At one time a similar wide brick chimney rested on the east side of the cupola which was torn out in renovating the house to create the very large single living room on the east side of the central hall.

Its central north, double paneled rectangular entrance door is flanked by three lights, separated and flanked by fluted pilasters, all of which are surmounted by a six light segmental arched fanlight. Single first floor rectangular, double-hung windows, holding six-over-six lights rest on each side of the doorway. They are decorated with molded lintels and cornices.

Once owned by Mrs. Miller Mills, a New York socialite, it is reputed to have been constructed circa 1833 by Francis Shipley for his New England bride.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

The Francis Shipley House

AND/OR COMMON

Mrs. Miller Mills House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

13523 Triadelphia Road

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Howard

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Benefield

Telephone #: 988-9706

STREET & NUMBER

13523 Triadelphia Road

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Md 21043**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, Tax Map 22, p. 21
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Hall of Records

Liber #: 828

Folio #: 420

STREET & NUMBER

Howard County Court House

CITY, TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Howard County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

1978

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

21 State Circle, Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

7 DESCRIPTION**CONDITION**

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Miller Mills House faces north on the south side of Triadelphia Road, 1/10 of a mile west of its intersection with Folly Quarter Road.

It sits back off the road, surrounded by flowering shrubs, mature trees and lawn. The house is a three bay wide, two bay deep, two and a half story high, gabled roof (running east-west) frame structure built on a stone foundation with central, square, tent roofed, cupola and wide brick chimney (running east-west).

Its central north, double paneled, rectangular entrance door is flanked by three lights, separated and flanked by fluted pilasters, all of which are surmounted by a six light segmental arched fanlight. A first-floor, rectangular, double-hung window, holding six-over-six lights rests on each side of the entrance. They are surmounted by molded wooden lintels and cornices. A flat roofed, open porch, approached by three wide wooden steps is supported by four square posts and two pilasters.

The east and west elevations of the house are almost identical, holding two first and second floor, vertically aligned windows with a central attic window. All the windows are double-hung, holding six-over-six lights, surmounted by flat wooden and pedimented lintels held by five molded brackets. A flat wooden sill completes their decoration. The west elevation has had a small modification. A square, one-one light central first and second floor casement window has been added for the kitchen and second floor bath, respectively.

The stone foundation also has a few modifications. The east elevation holds a central rectangular six light basement entrance door, flanked by two-two light basement casement windows. That on the west elevation holds a nine light entrance door on the south bay, with three-three light basement casement windows placed in the central and north bays of the foundation.

The south elevation holds a one story high, open porch with rectangular kitchen entrance in the west bay and central rectangular entrance surmounted by a three light transom. Rectangular six-over-six light windows are placed on each side of the central entrance.

The house is adorned by a wooden cornice which is decorated by thirty-nine (39) scrolled brackets.

The interior is noteworthy, featuring wide, random width pine floors throughout the house, central hall and staircase and unusual woodwork, almost all of which has been retained. The baseboards are plain unadorned

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

flat boards, some five inches deep. The door and window frames consist of flat pilasters underlapped by flat wooden lintels which extend an inch on either side beyond the outer edge of the pilasters; in addition, the windows have horizontal rectangular insets beneath each living and dining room window and one of the east windows on the second floor. The living room is located on the east side of the house and takes up more than a third of the first floor's floor space. It measures some 37' x 16' and features four large windows, one north and south, and two east. Entrance doors are located on each side of its west wall into the central hall.

This central hall is divided into a front and back hall. The front hall holds a fine staircase on its west wall with square unadorned spindles. The front hall takes up about two-thirds the depth of the house. A rectangular cross paneled door leads from this hall to the back hall and its outside entrance on its south wall, and an entrance into the kitchen on its west wall.

The back staircase is located on the kitchen's east wall and has a beaded batten wood door. The kitchen and dining room take up the west side of the house and are separated by a very wide brick chimney which holds two fireplaces, one for the kitchen which is adorned by a very simply designed mantelpiece and one in the dining room which holds a mantle piece with a curvilinear design.

This side of the house is noteworthy for the rooms with their original fireplaces. The east side of the hall was altered by Mrs. Miller Mills who tore out two large chimneys to create the single living room. It was used only two months a year when she came to go fox hunting in Howard County.

The upstairs features a similar floor plan except for the east side of the house, which holds a bath in its south east corner with a small bedroom between it and the back hall. The master bedroom takes up more than half of the north side of the east section of the house. An additional bath lies between the two bedrooms on the west side of the hall.

The attic features an additional two rooms with a staircase which goes up to the cupola.

The entire house is in excellent condition.

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES circa 1833

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Francis Shipley House is significant architecturally and historically to Howard County and the State of Maryland.

Architecturally it is significant as an example of a large frame country house, squarish in plan, of two and a half stories, three bays wide and two bays deep, which features a square tent-roofed cupola. This type of double-pile house, two rooms deep, appeared early in the eighteenth century in New England and persisted as the commonest type of house for one of consequence. Francis Shipley, reputed to be the builder of this house and who appears as its owner and/or occupant on the 1878 Hopkins Atlas was born in New York in 1810 and married in 1833. It is natural to assume that he had been exposed to such New England architecture. The story handed down from owner to owner is that he built it with a cupola for his bride who was from New England.

The building is eclectic in character, blending elements of Georgian Colonial architecture in the treatment of its north facade which features a double entrance door surmounted by a fanlight, with a certain italianate feeling experienced in its squarish building form and its ornate cornice, which is decorated with thirty-nine scrolled brackets. The square cupola is an additional architectural feature which adorns the house and gives it an air of unique distinction.

Fenestration is vertically aligned and proportionally scaled. The north facade of the house features window decoration consisting of molded wooden lintels and cornices while that of the east and west elevations feature flat wooden and pedimented lintels held by five molded brackets.

The construction of the house - its log roof trusses, its wide pine floors of random width, its stone foundation and deep fireplaces on the west side of the hall - all point to a 1833 date of construction. The eastern side of the central hall was completely remodeled by Mrs. Miller Mills who tore out its two fireplaces to create one large room. She used the house only when coming to participate in the Howard County

Hunt and used the large living room to accomodate entertaining her guests. The house as it stands today is extremely well integrated in plan and form, and presents itself a complete entity and single unit of construction.

Architecturally this building is one of the most noteworthy in Howard County, featuring original woodwork and floors throughout the house. The interior window and door decoration are most unique featuring flat pilasters and lintels which overlap and appear neo-Grec in feeling. These are further decorated with horizontal rectangular insets above doorways and below windows and are evidenced throughout the entire house. The hall stairway is also basically simple and direct, as well as elegant, in design, with square tapered spindles and fine knewel post. Front staircase and hall, coupled with a back servants staircase and hall indicate the owners were a prominent family of means.

Historically the house is connected with the Shipley family, early settlers and leaders of Howard County. Architecturally, it is quite unique to the Howard County landscape.

For these reasons, the Francis Shipley House should be considered for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places and the State Critical Areas Program.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Howard County Land Records
Interview with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Benefield, Saturday, May 13, 1978
at their home.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 7.153 Acres

Please see Attachment 1, Tax Map 22, p. 21

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Please see Howard County Land Records, Liber 828, folio 420.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland COUNTY Howard

STATE _____ COUNTY _____

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Cleora Barnes Thompson, Archivist

ORGANIZATION

Office of Planning & Zoning-Comprehensive Planning Section

DATE

465-5000 x257

STREET & NUMBER

3450 Court House Drive

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Ellicott City

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

HO-182

~~140182 1904~~

140182 5404

Mrs Miller Miller house - common

~~Ed. J. Knight~~

Triadelphia Road, Clarksburg
Westwood Church

2-story Victorian
squarish and plain

located in field by MOB 7/70

for Map # 22

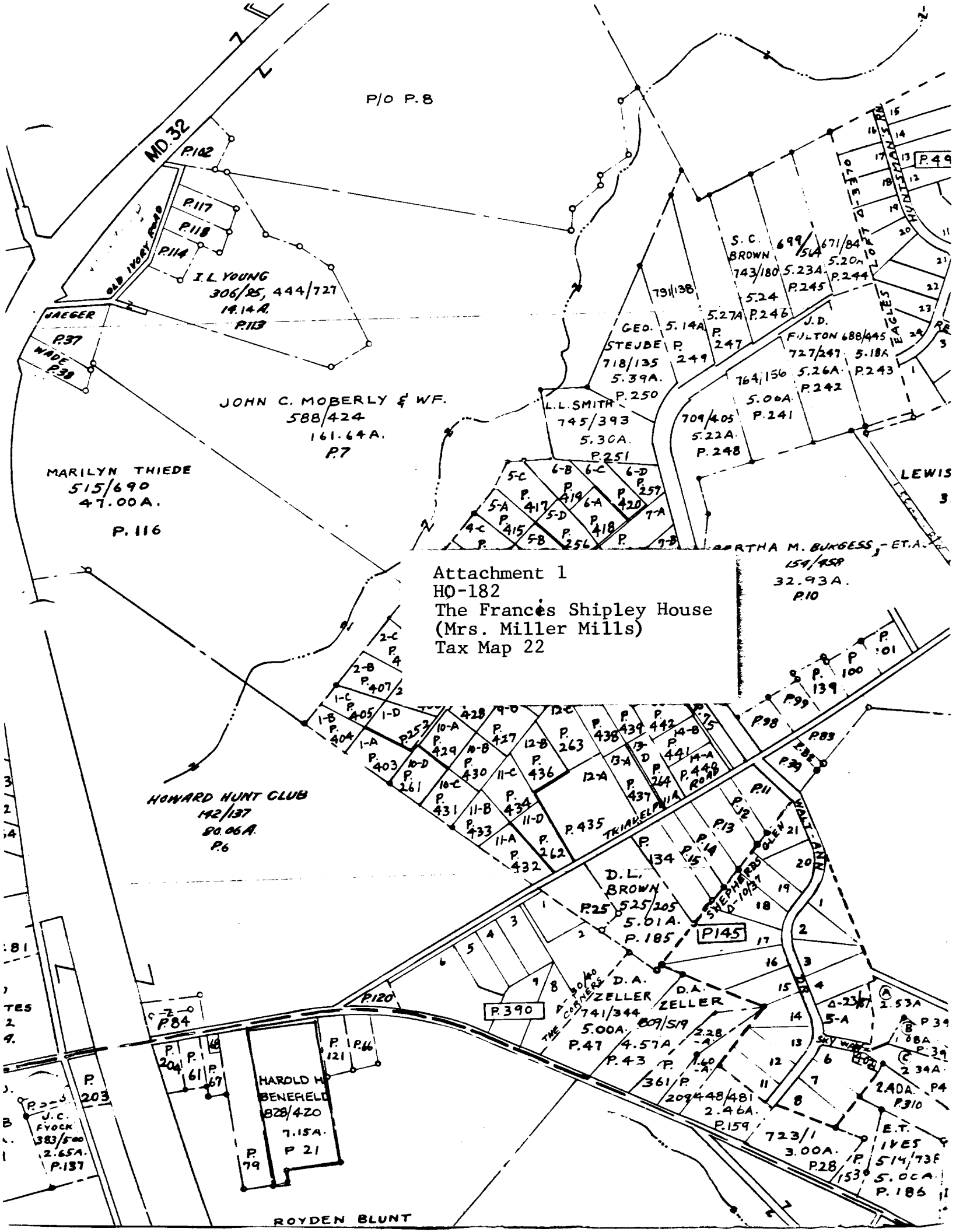
Ed. J. Knight

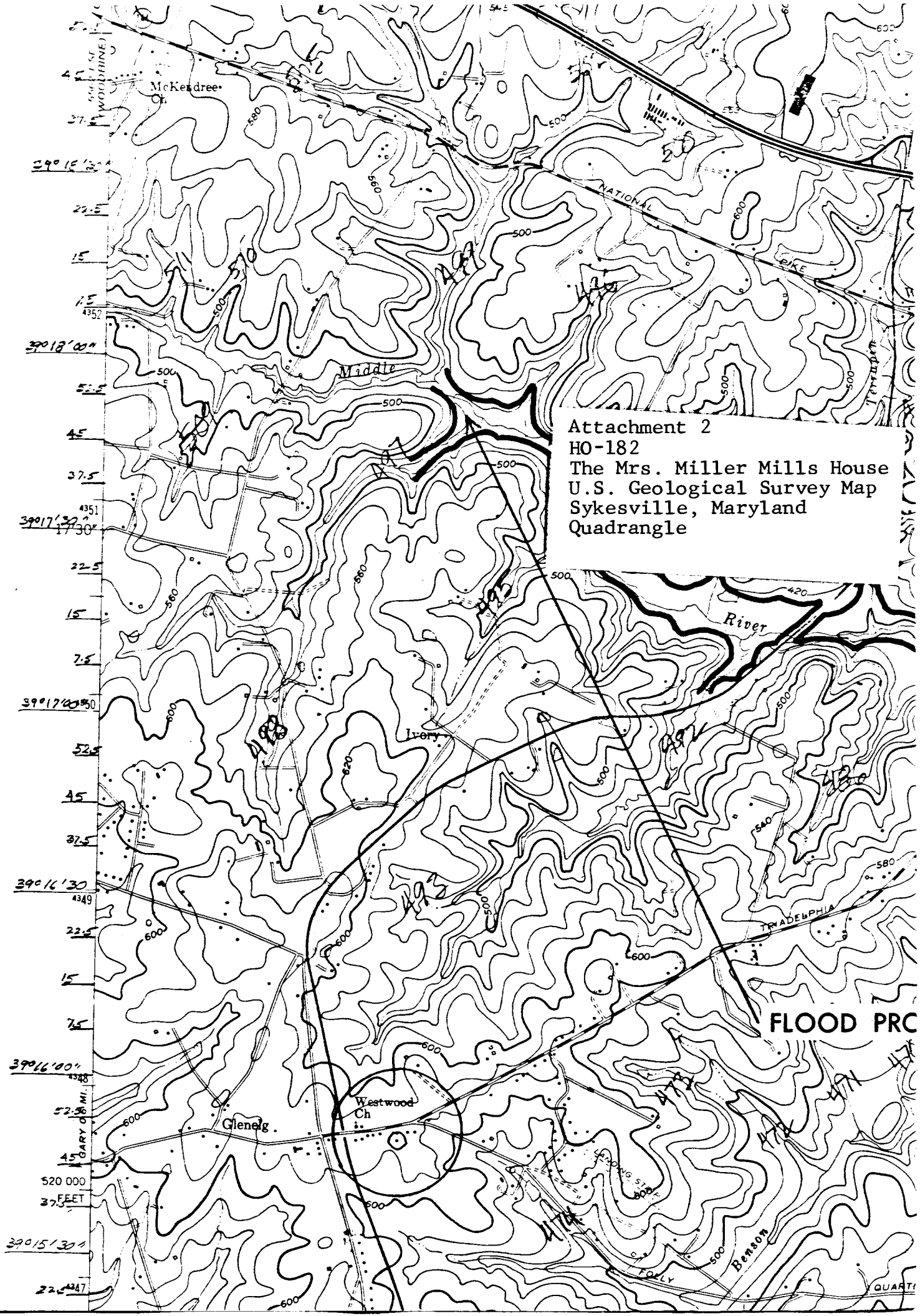
Researcher !

244/297

7.14.1.

p. 21





Attachment 2
HO-182
The Mrs. Miller Mills House
U.S. Geological Survey Map
Sykesville, Maryland
Quadrangle

FLOOD PRC

Ho. 182

9300

Francis Shipley & Co.

(Knight house) JS 4/72





HD-182
FRANCIS SHIPLEY HOUSE
NORTH
MAY - 1978

CB THOMPSON, AID